

### **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to a composition including an organic phosphorous-containing group bonded via an oxygen atom to a metal oxide of at least one element M. Generally, the composition is essentially amorphous, and includes an essentially monomolecular layer of an organic group directly bonded to the phosphorous atom. In addition, the composition is generally essentially free of any phosphate, phosphonate or phosphinate phase of the element M. Moreover, the composition has a ratio of the element M to phosphorous of about 15:1–200:1.